

NILA

NEBRASKA INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGES ASSOCIATION



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NILA is now online with Twitter
(<http://twitter.com/NELangTeach>)

Facebook (Nebr Int'l Languages Assoc).

These are also linked at NILA's webpage
(http://www.nde.state.ne.us/forlg/NILA/NILA_Main.htm).

SAVE THE DATE!

NOV. 20-22
2009

ACTFL
CONFERENCE IN
SAN DIEGO, CA

MAR. 4-6 2010

CENTRAL STATES
CONFERENCE IN
MINNEAPOLIS

OCT. 1-2, 2010

NEXT YEAR'S NILA
FALL
CONFERENCE AT
WESLEYAN
UNIVERSITY IN
LINCOLN

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Greetings!

It was great to see everyone at the NILA Fall Conference in Kearney! Who would have guessed that we would have snow so early in October? However, November has been gorgeous so please take some time to enjoy. Congratulations to all of our award winners and to all who worked so diligently to make the conference a success. We also thank our colleagues who gave their time to share ideas to enhance student learning. We are sorry that some of you were not able to make it to Kearney due to the weather but be sure to check out the NILA website. Many of our presenters have uploaded their presentations. NILA is now on Twitter and Facebook! Sign up and keep in touch with colleagues throughout the state at: <http://twitter.com/NELangTeach> and Facebook at Nebr Int'l Languages Assoc. If you were able to try out one of the ideas you learned at the conference or have any other classroom ideas, please share at one of the above sites.

Save the following dates! March 4-6 is Central States in Minneapolis. October 1 and 2 will be the dates for the 2010 NILA Fall Conference to be held at Nebraska Wesleyan University in Lincoln. The theme for the conference is "NILA 2.0: Cruising the Cultural Highway. The keynote speaker will be Toni Theisen, 2009 ACTFL Teacher of the Year. She is a dynamic speaker with great ideas to share. Some of you might have heard her speak last year at Central States in Chicago. If you didn't have that opportunity, you won't want to miss Toni when she comes to Nebraska next October. Although the conference theme is related to technology, presentations do not need to be limited to this topic. We welcome you to submit proposals to our conference chair, Sarah Percival at Westside High School in Omaha.

If you would like to be more involved in NILA or if there is some way that NILA can assist you, please do not hesitate to call or email one of the officers. We are interested in serving you in any way that we can. All contact information can be found on the Executive Council page. I look forward to hearing from all of you.

Sincerely,

Marlene Knobbe

NILA President



NILA CONFERENCE AWARDS 2009

FATHER PLANK OF MT. MICHAEL BENEDICTINE HIGH SCHOOL NAMED 2009 OUTSTANDING WORLD LANGUAGE TEACHER

Father Stephen Plank, Language Department chair at Mt. Michael Benedictine High School in Elkhorn, was recently named 2009 Outstanding World Language Teacher. Plank received the award at the annual Nebraska International Languages Association fall conference. The award recognizes world language educators who demonstrate creativity and imagination in their teaching and those who promote the study of world language outside the classroom. Plank is known for helping struggling students and for his ability to instill in his students a love for classic French cinema. Plank participates in French activities held in the Omaha area, including National French Week Activities, the French Convention, Le Grand Concours and the Auberge de Jeunesse youth immersion. He has also assisted with Creighton University's summer French program for children. Plank's students are always well prepared, a colleague said, noting that Plank evaluates his students on how well they work together as a team as well as academic criteria. Plank served as the Nebraska American Association of Teachers of French president from 2003-2005 and has been a member of the Alliance Francaise since 1996. He was named Nebraska French Teacher of the Year in 2007 and has been awarded the Nebraska Department of Education STAR Award for World Languages. Plank will participate in the regional NILA competition.

The following awards were also presented during the conference:

Sarah Percival, a Westside High School French teacher, received NILA's Outstanding Young Educator award. This award is given to a world language educator who has taught for less than five years and shows potential for extraordinary development in the implementation of classroom strategies. Percival has been an active member of NILA, serving as the 2009 assistant program chair. For the 2010 conference, she will be program chair. Percival is active in the Nebraska American Association of Teachers of French, serves as co-sponsor of the Westside High School French Club and helps host the metro-area French Convention. She is known for having a classroom filled with interesting activities aimed at getting her students actively involved in learning.

The Outstanding Service Award was presented to Past-President Tricia Suchsland for her years of leadership to the organization.

The Pro Lingua Award was presented to the Malaika Foundation in recognition of the contributions of friends outside the teaching profession to support Nebraska world language students. The Malaika Foundation's mission is adding an international dimension to learning in Nebraska schools, with the goal of building greater understanding among young people from different global cultural traditions. The Malaika Foundation has sponsored Nebraska students to the World Food Prize Youth Institute as well as teachers to the Asia Society Conference. The foundation has also worked with the Nebraska Department of Education to provide International Education workshops and with the Kenneth Morrison International Fellowships to provide international travel and study program opportunities for Nebraska educators.



What would you like to do this summer? Would you like to pursue opportunities around the globe or in the US? Would you like to plan your own fellowship, where to go, what activities to pursue, when to schedule it?

Fund for Teachers can help you achieve this goal:

- Any teacher employed by a school district in Nebraska is eligible to apply for up to \$5,000 or you can apply as a team of two or more for up to \$10,000.
- Must teach in a Pre-K through 12th grade classroom.
- Must be a full time teacher spending at least 50% of the time in the classroom or classroom-like setting.
- Minimum of 3 years classroom teaching experience.
- Intends to return to teaching in their school district in the consecutive school year.

If you are interested in this exciting opportunity, please check out the website at: <http://www.fundforteachers.org/> Apply online by January 29, 2010.

**2010 Toyota International
Teacher Program to Costa Rica**
June 18 – July 3, 2010

Apply now for a fully-funded professional development study tour in Costa Rica!

EXPERIENCE the people & culture of Costa Rica

DISCOVER one of the most biodiverse ecosystems in the world

EXPLORE innovative & interdisciplinary solutions to environmental issues

LEARN from experts about conservation & sustainability

CONNECT with students and teachers worldwide

CREATE original, hands-on curricula utilizing new ideas and resources

Visit our website to apply:

www.toyota4education.com

Application Deadline: January 6, 2010

HAVE QUESTIONS? CONTACT US:

TEL 1.877.832.2457

toyotateach@iie.org

www.toyota4education.com

ACTFL NEWS

2010 VIDEO PODCAST CONTEST

ACTFL is sponsoring a national video student podcast contest to celebrate Discover Languages Month during February 2010. Students across the country are encouraged to submit video podcasts on how language learning has been important in their lives. The podcasts will be judged for originality and creativity by a celebrity panel of judges. Cash and product prizes will be awarded to the students who produce the winning podcasts. Visit actflvideocontest.org for complete details. The deadline to submit is December 20, 2009.

NEW PUBLICATION FROM ACTFL

Starting on Tues., Nov. 3 ACTFL will be offering, ACTFL Smartbrief, a weekly e-mail compiling language education news, technology and trends, and regulatory affairs information. The newsletter will contain a brief summary of the article with links to the full original source article. Members will receive the first six (6) issues automatically, but after that will need to sign up to continue receiving ACTFL Smartbrief. Subscribers will also be able to share and post the articles to their online networks.

CENTRAL STATES NEWS

2010 Conference

The 2010 Conference will be held at the Hyatt Regency in Minneapolis, Minnesota from March 4-6, 2010. The conference theme is "2020 Vision for 2010: Developing Global Competence." Mary Goodwin is serving as Program Chair and her Assistant is Phyllis Farrar. Janice Kittok is the Local Arrangements Chair. New this year is the CSCTFL Awards Ceremony incorporated into the keynote address general session. The keynote address will be given by Marilyn Carlson Nelson. This Minneapolis native and internationally recognized executive is an authority on authentic leadership. She will share the secrets of the extraordinary success of her global business portfolio and talk about her rich international experience. She is the author of *How We Lead Matters: Reflections on a Life of Leadership*.

2009 Conference Summary

More than 1,200 participants attended the CSCTFL Conference, "Diverse by Design", held March 19-21 at the Hyatt Regency Chicago in Chicago, Illinois. Program Chair was Lori Winne and Mary Goodwin served as Assistant Program Chair. Leann Wilcoxon served as Local Arrangements Chair and Todd Bowen was Assistant Local Arrangements Chair. A variety of sessions, workshops and special events offered valuable professional development opportunities to participants. In his Friday keynote, "In Search of Language: Diverse by Design," John De Mado used humor to guide participants through understanding the 'nature' of language, compelling them to reconsider their techniques and to construct classrooms that are "diverse by design." John's hard-hitting insights into learning challenge the intellect and stimulate thinking, serving as a catalyst for change. Carolyn Gascoigne and Melanie Bloom from the University of Nebraska in Omaha served as co-editors of the CSCTFL 2009 Conference Report, *Diverse by Design*. Copies of the report are available for purchase at www.csctfl.org.

The CSCTFL Advisory Council Reception and Business Meeting will be held late Thursday afternoon for all Advisory Council members. Advisory Council members receive free conference registration and obtain voting rights on CSCTFL matters. This reception is a delightful way to start the conference by networking with colleagues and making new friends.

CSCTFL Scholarship Opportunities: There are five scholarships available to teachers in the CSCTFL region. They include the Centro Mundo Lengua Scholarship for AP Teachers in Spain, Cemanahuac Educational Community in Mexico Scholarship, Universidad Internacional: Center for Bilingual Multicultural Studies, Embassy of Spain in Salamanca, and Goethe Institut American Association of Teachers of German Scholarship.

CSCTFL Professional Development Initiatives

Leadership Program: The CSCTFL Leadership Program supports state projects with state-nominated representatives within a CSCTFL-sponsored mentoring program. Emerging leaders are supported by two-way peer mentoring and the expertise of recent Leadership Program graduates. A variety of state projects that range from action research to increasing membership are supported by this program.

Conference Workshop/Extension Workshop (EW) Program: Using Web 2.0 to Create Communicative Possibilities in WL Class will be presented by *Daryl Boeckers* and coordinated by *Gaelle Berg (chair), Leann Wilcoxon, and Sharon Rapp*. Participants will learn to use Podcasting and Moodle forums as digital supplements to communicative language learning. Teachers will explore why and how to record .mp3 files, will use those recorded files in forum format, and learn how to build online forums in the target language for online student interaction. Each year approximately twenty-five participants are selected to attend the Conference Workshop (CW). Participants receive a set of materials from each of the presenters, giving them the content information that they can copy for their own EWs. Participants are then asked to conduct a similar Extension Workshop (EW) in their local area in order to bring the Conference and its new and evolving ideas to a greater number of teachers.

Grants Program: The CSCTFL grants program supports the needs of states that have an issue to be addressed. Grant projects may include, but are not limited to, professional development grants designed to improve the teaching and learning of world languages, support for special programs that strengthen the local and state organization and allow organizations to contact or offer increased and special services to its members, and funding for research on topics of general interest with wide applicability to teachers at all levels.

Outreach to States: The CSCTFL supports professional development outreach to the 17 states in the CSCTFL region. CSCTFL uses the ACTFL model to encourage each state to present a session at their state foreign language conference that includes CSCTFL information and classroom tips from their current state TOY. CSCTFL representatives may also be invited from other states to present. This outreach has added the excitement of using state and CSC TOYs to serve as outreach ambassadors.

Future Conference Sites:

2011 – March 3-5, Hyatt Regency Indianapolis; Indianapolis, IN

2012 – March 8-10, Hyatt Regency Milwaukee; Milwaukee, WI

2013 – Columbus, OH

2014 – Denver, CO

CSCTFL Web Address: www.csctfl.org